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a device coupled to the local bus, wherein the device occupies an I/O slot [which corresponds to] and is accessible at a first [communications port on the local bus] set of address, and the device has a register set [which] with an address assignment in the first set of addresses that differs from a standard address assignment of a register set for a UART corresponding to the I/O slot;

an operating system executed by the processing unit, wherein the operating system includes a procedure for accessing a register set of a UART corresponding to the first communications port; and

A2 *concluded*

a communications driver executed by the processing unit, the communication driver comprising [:] a UART emulation which in response to [execution of] an access by the procedure for accessing [a] the register set of a UART, [accesses storage locations in the main memory] converts the access as required for the register set and address assignment of the device [; and an I/O handler which transfers values between the storage locations in the main memory and the register set of the device].

Sub D14

4. (Amended) A method for communication between a computer and a device having an I/O interface which differs from the I/O interface of a UART, comprising:

coupling the I/O interface of the device to a local bus in the computer; allocating in a memory of the computer, storage locations which correspond to registers of a UART; and transmitting [values] information via the local bus between the I/O interface of the device and the allocated storage locations in the memory of the computer.

A3

Sub E1

5. (Amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising transmitting from an application to a communications driver a [data] packet [which is] formatted for a UART, wherein the communication driver updates a value in the storage locations according to a value in the [data] packet.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the communication [drive] driver performs the step of transmitting by:

A3 *noted*

converting a value [in the data packet] from the allocated storage to a converted value compatible with the I/O interface of the device; and